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William Randolph Hearst asked for a groat and they gave him a thousand pound—ings.

With the price of clothing on the jump, there is an alibi waiting for every man in patches.

We predict that the era of chafing in the camp of the 57th Pioneers at Sparta is nearing the end.

The notion that Americans can fight is spreading rapidly in Germany. It began to percolate somewhere near the western front.

If your favorite bird soloist is strangely silent these August mornings, remember that this is moulting time and that our feathered friends remain very quiet.

Now that Candidate Howe has stated more explicitly his position as to the national prohibition amendment, that matter ceases to be an issue between himself and Candidate Darling.

A mounting mercury with old Gen. Humidity in full command makes us aware of what life in this climate might have been had the Kaiser succeeded in reaching Paris in six weeks, London in three months, and New York within the year.

When one of the candidates became temporarily indisposed and his condition for the moment threatened an extended illness, the thrust and parry of newspapers contending for the candidate of their choice came to an end for a brief season. All joined in expressing regret and editorially hoping for the rapid recovery of Frank Howe. Happily first reports from the hospital where he is detained were the worst.

Newspapermen the country over who are at all attentive to the opinions of their exchanges learn with genuine regret that Henry Watterson ceases to act as editor of the Louisville Courier-Journal, now that the Watterson papers have been sold. The old war horse is to be retained in an advisory capacity and if occasion demands probably he will be ready to lend his pen to the support of any cause which involves the success or defeat of a measure that compels his interest.

If the consequences were anything but deathly serious, the oft reiterated views of Lord Lansdowne would attract only caustic comment from the press and there would be the end to it. Yet so much is at stake that his every bid for peace evokes an uproar from people who heartily support the governments that seek to eradicate the evils of militarism and autocracy, while the only praise comes from Germany and her confederates. Few men, in the light of what has happened since the late summer of 1914, would care to be encumbered with so heavy a burden as Teutonic commendation.

Politicians who plan to make a bid for the woman vote by opposing the bill to enroll for military service young men between 18 and 21 may some day have to reckon with those same young men, for the history of the present war has taught us that boys on the south side of their majority are usually the ones most eager to fight. To deprive them of the privilege, or to legislate in their favor may arouse a measure of opposition wholly unlooked for by some of our statesmen whose eyes are mainly for their fences. Youngsters from 18 to 21 are not the ones who are asking to be exempt from military service or to be placed at the foot of the combatant list.

"Reduction sales" graphically set forth in catalogues so tremendously bulky as to traverse all rules of conservation are having their innings as fall approaches and mail order houses are preparing for the rush of inquiries that invariably follow the catalogue distribution. The philosophy of the mark-down policy followed by many of these concerns is well illustrated by the upstate merchant who used to advertise oranges at "3 cents apiece, 3 for 10c." Incidentally, it remains to be said that many of the mark-downs are made on unseasonable goods or wearing apparel of a pronounced or passing fashion. Your home merchant is a pretty safe person to patronize, and when it comes to paying taxes he, and not the mail order concern in Chicago, is the man who helps carry a burden that would be yours alone if everybody went out of town to do their buying.

Grade crossings cannot be abolished too rapidly for the safety of that part of the public which travels by team and automobile. A deep tragedy comes to remind us that there is a dangerous crossing at West Berlin, yet within an hour's ride of Barre there are other grade crossings where the stage is already set for a repetition of last week's lamentable happening. The railroads in Vermont, over-burdened by unparalleled demands, are trying to keep pace with a public sentiment that demands the swift elimination of the death trap which is

found on so many of our wayside crossings. Not all of them can be bridged with overpasses at once, especially when abnormal circumstances are calling for added upkeep expenditures. Therefore, while present conditions obtain, it would be well for every motorist and every teamster to keep in mind the old direction, "look and listen." Greater care on the part of those who travel the highways must serve while the work of eliminating grade crossings is partially stayed.

BRAZIL IN THE WAR

With problems similar to those which the United States has attacked and solved, Brazil is rapidly striking her stride in wholesale preparations for a war to the finish against the forces of autocracy. So many more important matters challenge our attention nowadays that we are wont to dismiss from the field of our speculations all thoughts of what our big neighbor to the south is doing or proposes to do. The energy displayed by the sister republic in dealing with her German colonies is comparable with that of our own, and perhaps in some respects her plan has had the virtue of better organization. Better in this respect, that her problems have been more localized and therefore easier to handle. German colonies have been effectively cowed and the process has been rendered more simple because the Germans in Brazil never became naturalized.

Brazil has raised a modernized army and steel stays have been placed in a compulsory service act which was never strictly enforced until Germany's ruthlessness forced the nation into war. Voluntary enlistments have been numerous and something of the idealism which has spread among our own youth is measurably responsible for the enthusiasm which young Brazilians are showing in their military training. Despite a natural lack of facilities, Brazil has undertaken shipbuilding on a large scale and the results of a carefully contrived policy in this direction are already seen. Before many months Europeans may be gladdened by the sight of Brazilian boats bearing adequately trained Brazilian soldiers into the great struggle. Indeed, it is only a lack of transport service that accounts for the absence of the flag of Brazil on the western front to-day.

The Germans, if they expected to pursue unhindered their evil ways in Brazil, have been completely disillusioned. Public works contracts entered into with German contractors have been annulled; Germans no longer control their banks; thousands of Germans are interned; and most of their property has been confiscated. Brazil is in the war and we shall realize it more fully as the days go by.

CURRENT COMMENT

Heroes, Indeed!  
"Heroes of the pick" is Secretary Baker's designation of the 150 mine workers of Mercer County, Pa., who have returned to work though retired on account of age. A fitting phrase.—New York World.

Squash, Splish!  
Of Foch let us sing. That is to say, a homespun Yankee's honest admiration of the generalissimo's achievement might be expressed in rhyme:  
Foch, Roche, Gosh!—Springfield Republican.

The news that Col. Henry Watterson has ceased to direct the editorial utterances of the Louisville Courier-Journal means that a lively and interesting chapter in American journalism has been closed. He represented the intense individualism of the past. As a personality he stood alone among the editors of the United States, often irritating, but always beloved. May he continue to serve "in an advisory capacity" as long as such function appeals to him.—Springfield Republican.

Hold Fast.  
Two good words, these of Lloyd George to the people of Britain—and just as good for us as for them, and timely as well—hold fast.

It is a moment in which to hold fast to high purpose. The tide of war is turning in our favor. As it turns, voices arise begging us not to press too severely upon an inevitably beaten enemy. Germany must have a chance to live among the nations, it is said. The plea of the under dog is being heard. Hold fast. There is that in Germany which deliberately planned and started the war, and wants only time and opportunity to organize and begin another. Call it what you will, this thing in Germany must not live. We have addressed ourselves to the just and manly undertaking of ridding the world of this evil thing, and no matter how deep into the life of Germany its roots run, it must be torn up and destroyed. If not, still it must be hedged in and policed so that its noxious growth shall not cast its shadow over the nations again. For our hearts are set upon broadening and strengthening the foundations of human liberty, and establishing an understanding among free peoples by which man's life may be enlarged in every dimension. If and when Germany evidences a desire to share in the work of enlarging the life of the individual man, we shall admit her into the sisterhood of nations. Under and until she does this, there is nothing to do but consider her a menace, a violent poison in the life blood of the race, and deal with her accordingly. Hold fast to the purposes of the war. It is peculiarly a time to hold fast to good ground gained, and not to lose it by over-confidence. Let us learn of Foch. No hasty step imperils

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his gains. No cock-sure optimism throws solid advantage into the hands of the enemy. Not so with all of us. There is a tendency to think of the war as won. That spells disaster if it goes far enough. It means indifference to the calls for redoubled sacrifice. There must be no let-up. Every additional thousand men overseas demands new tonnage, new production of almost every kind from the farm to the shipyard. The victory of to-day is a clarion call for renewed energy that the full fruits of the victory may be won. Hold fast.

And if this seems hard to bear, and the road ahead appears to be a long and weary one, still let us hold fast to the good faith that we have that at the end of the road is the triumph of the ideas that have made our nation free and great. That is worth long working and waiting. To have it settled once and for all that this is a free man's world is worth much. And this is to be settled. Let us make no mistake on that point. Wrong and oppression often gain temporary mastery, but to believe that when the issue between right and wrong is fairly joined on a world-wide stage, wrong could conquer, would be to question the existence of a moral order in the universe. The world is going ahead, not backward. This thing we Americans believe, whether we ever shape the thought in words or not. It is an article of our faith. Let us hold fast to the faith that is in us.—Manchester Union.

Watch the Eastern Gate.

The allies have Germany by the throat now. They can defeat the enemy next year if they can continue increasing their own forces and prevent Germany from increasing its strength via Russia. But if they permit the summer to pass without making the Russian situation safe, the year of 1919 may be a terrible record of allied disappointment and useless bloodshed. Germany would surely be stronger, if not unconquerable. The western front is the scene of what may be the crucial struggle. Every heart in allied lands beats high with the hope that the terrific battles of these days will not be in vain—that they will break down the enemy and force him to sue for peace. Yet, after all, that is a hope, and hopes in war times are subject to cruel lacerations. It is not prudent to stake the lives of entire armies on untried hopes. The political and military authorities cannot escape the fact that the western front and the Russian situation are linked together and must be dealt with as a single problem.—Washington Post.

VERMONT WAR NOTES

After trying nearly every branch of the army, Earl G. Maxfield of Starksboro has finally been accepted and will serve in the medical corps of the regular army. His eyes were not quite up to the minimum test, but aside from that he was in fine condition.

Maj. Berton W. Sibley has been cited for gallantry in action in France. He commanded the third battalion in its attack on the enemy and his excellent judgment and personal bravery inspired his men to redoubled efforts. Major Sibley's mother, Mrs. Harriet Sibley, lives in Essex Junction.

Sergt. Herbert H. Bell of Highgate, who was killed in France recently, was a non-commissioned officer with a Concord company of the New Hampshire National Guard at the time the war broke out and one of the first Americans to go across. A brother, Private Arthur Rollo, is a member of the 103d machine gun battalion in France and their mother, Mrs. Henry Rollo, lives in Highgate Springs.

Sergt. Elmer G. Brackett, son of Mr. and Mrs. Guy Brackett of St. Albans, who was seriously wounded in action July 23, was a member of the 101st machine gun battalion, and had been overseas about a year. Another St. Albans boy, Pvt. Homer LaCross, son of Mrs. Agnes Taylor, who was wounded July 18, is also with a machine gun battalion.

Sergt. J. B. Kendrick, son of Mrs. D. J. Stevens of Fairfax, has received the French croix de guerre and the American distinguished service order medal for conspicuous service rendered when the Boches made their raid on Seicheprey April 20-21. He has been in France since March 30, 1917, having served with the French ambulance section before the United States declared war.

William Mazzoni, who was seriously wounded in France recently, was a member of the 102d United States infantry, Co. H, enlisting at New Haven, Conn. He has been in France since last November. His mother, Mrs. P. Mazzoni, lives in Burlington. Mr. Mazzoni's brother is an instructor at Carnegie institute, where part of the signal corps is being trained.

Lynwood B. Cunningham, another Burlingtonian, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Cunningham and a member of the 23d United States infantry, enlisting in July, 1917, and going across in September of the same year.

Clifford Lashua, the North Williston boy who was killed in France July 21, was in the 103d machine gun battalion and had been across since December.

Lieut. Donald Sage Mackay, a native of Burlington, has been wounded in France, according to a cablegram which he sent to his aunt, Mrs. W. B. Fonda of St. Albans. He is wounded in the legs, but nothing serious. Lieut. Mackay was studying for the ministry until the United States entered the war, when he entered the military service.

ABUSE OF THE SERVICE FLAG.

A Movement for Keeping It to Its Original Meaning.

The service flag is an unofficial tribute to the men who are following the colors of their country on land and sea, but the abuse of the flag has prompted the judge advocate-general's department with the approval of the adjutant-general of the army, to draft regulations for its use.

Briefly, these regulations, that are suggestive and not mandatory, provide that only those who are serving in some branch of the army or navy are entitled to a star.

Instances are not infrequent where the distinction of a star has been given to men whose only claim is that they are working for the government. This practice will bring the beautiful idea of the service flag into utter disrepute and make those really entitled to it disinclined to display it. It does an injustice to our fighting forces that is properly resented. To display a star that does not represent the potential sacrifice of life in the naval or military service of the country is as flagrantly vicious in taste as to wear a distinguished service medal or a Victoria cross that is not backed by the heroic deeds of its wearer.—Chicago Evening Post.

A NEGLECTED WAR GARDEN is worse than none, because it wastes the land which might raise valuable food stuff.

Sale on All Men's Low Shoes

Gentlemen, right in the middle of the season we are reducing the price of all Mens Low Shoes.

We have too many of these and must clean them up. Therefore, the following prices for this week:  
All Men's \$7.00 Oxfords now ..... \$5.75  
All Men's \$6.00 Oxfords now ..... 4.85  
All Men's \$5.00 Oxfords now ..... 3.95  
All Men's \$4.00 Oxfords now ..... 3.15

See them in our window and do not fail to buy one or more pairs.

Rogers' Walk-Over Boot Shop

SOUTH WALDEN

Mrs. Winona Foster is staying for a time at the home of her sister, Mrs. Robert Walbridge, in Cabot.

Master Theodore Chamberlain of St. Johnsbury was a recent guest at the home of his aunt, Mrs. A. L. Beals.

Miss Elizabeth Morrill of Hardwick spent the latter part of last week with her cousin, Miss Glenna Perkins.

Leon Stuart and family of East Hardwick were guests Sunday at the home of Mrs. Stuart's parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Newton.

Mr. and Mrs. Harley Marden were in town recently.

Mrs. Emma Porter and family were guests at the home of her brother, H. M. Perkins, Sunday.

Glenn Bailey and family of Craftsbury visited relatives here last week Thursday.

The ice cream supper and promenade at Goodenough's hall, for the Red Cross last week, was largely attended.

Perfect Evening Spoiled.

"Isn't it glorious here?" she exclaimed when the waiter had taken their orders. "Do you think so?" he replied. "It's perfectly lovely. Everything is in such beautiful harmony—the fountain, the trees, the swaying lanterns, the music—everything is ideal. It's like fairyland."

"I'm glad you like it." "I'm simply enchanted. Doesn't it make you feel as if you had stepped out of the everyday world into something strange and new?"

"Not a bit."

"What's the matter? You don't seem to be enjoying yourself."

"My boss is sitting at the third table over there to your left, and I can tell by his looks that he's wondering how I can afford to blow myself at a place like this."—Dayton News.

Quite Another Chap.

A rookie was reading an article about the Kaiser which compared him with Nero. "Who was Nero Bill?" he asked a fellow rookie.

"Wasn't he a man that was always cold?"

"Naw," was the reply, "that was Zero, another guy altogether."—Boston Transcript.

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